

Lecture notes to Religious Studies (REL) 320, "The Mythological Framework of Western Culture", Victoria College, University of Toronto, taught by Northrop Frye (Biblical) and Jay Macpherson (Greco-Roman mythology), October 1979 to March 1980. Notes taken by doctoral student Willard McCarty. These notes are fragmentary, beginning after I discovered the course accidentally.
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SUBJECT Rel 320 / Victoria

Hesiod: Theogony

a theogony: standard genre of trad. cultures.

early beings - powerful but deformed.

Existence reaching a higher level.

Abstractions - allegorical beings, e.g. Memory & the psychological forces at work

Primordial beings: Chaos, Gaea, Eros
(abyss)

sexual mating

the basic, though not only, way things come about

Eros sets in motion, but does not create

In lit. Eros is the youngest or the oldest
(Spenser's Hymne To Heavenly Love)

Gaia → Uranus (= sky)

"Cyclopes" = "round eye" metallurgists

Uranus is jealous. Gaia makes cycle of adamant

Cronus castrates Uranus - cutting heaven & earth apart - to make room for creation

See Genesis

organs of Uranus → Aphrodite

names



where she lands	{	Cythera - Cytherea
	{	Cyprus - Cypraea

Hestia - sacred hearth fire

older generation, pushed into the background,
becomes ORACULAR

Kronos - (Roman) Cronus → "chronus",
under the influence of euhemerizing
philosophical revision
thus the cycle

Zeus gets Cyclopes on his side.

They forge thunderbolts.

Tartarus' son Typhon, the dragon,
father of storm winds ("typhoon")

Zeus "Father of Gods & Men"

↳ not begetter, but source of power, representative
first wife: Themis, the titaness of order

Fates Spinning: female occupation

"spinster" wyf, weib → weave

↳ Moirai

Fata "spoken, decreed"

"fata morgana" - a "faery" - fr. fata

Morgan le fay

"the fateful spinning wheel"

Metis, wife of Zeus, mother of Athene

equal partner of Zeus, representative
of him. Manner of birth → owl, wisdom

Not personification or allegories

Pattern: parents threatened by children

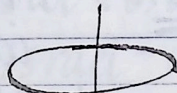
Birth of Achilles

~~Hep~~ Hephaestus from Hera

Swallowing of children: incorporation of
threatening forces

Female, Mother Goddess

with changeable male consorts
close to earth



Male, Father Gods
sky fathers

Zeus takes the
reproductive
process into
himself: Athene

Loves of
the gods

5.x (Frye)

Historical setting, but interest in the shape
rather than the content.

No cyclical view with relation to Israel;

Israel goes down et is redeemed

Heathen empires: cyclical rise et fall

Ideal et Demonic states

Eden - promised land - p.l. II - Jerusalem:
Zion

Images are metaphorical - all these
places are metaphorically identical

Egypt - Babylon - Rome

Images → polarization: Heaven et Hell
of Bible → ideal // abhorrent
apocalyptic // demonic

Apocalyptic:

oasis: trees et water (Eden)

pastoral: flocks et herds (Promised Land)
mobile

agricultural: grain et wine (P.L. II)

urban: city et temple (Jerusalem)

Parody: Demonic

Apocalyptic: what humans want

Work of man - the transformation

Transformation :

man as animal

Animal → flocks et herds : sheepfold (pastor et flock)

Vegtable → farms et crops:

Mineral → cities, temples,

roads (connection in space et time)

Human society : what kind of life : Felicity ?

individual ideal ← X → social ideal
isolation from belonging to

Persistent metaphor: human society as an individual

Kings as incarnations of society

Structure of the Bible (unique)

Hero of Old Testament: (Archaic: Adam)

Israel - a society

Hero of New:

Christ - an individual

"In the New T, the old is revealed; in the old T., the new is concealed"

St. Augustine

reflecting
mirrors of
each
other

(OT = type
NT = antitype (Romans 5, 14)

Adam is the typos of Christ.

The NT is true because it is anticipated by the old. et vice versa

Metaphorical Identity

Sexual relation: individual et social

The individual is bridegroom / Revelations
Society is the bride
(Song of Songs)

Animal: flock et shepherd or lamb ^{Body et the Blood}

Mineral: Bride is city
Bridegroom is temple / Rev. 21.2

Meister Eckhart:
All men are female
to God.

Heavenly City is bridegroom

Vegetable { pagan cog. with peasant
heathen " " heath
rural people cling to old ways
Christianity is urban

|| Song of Songs

bread et wine ← fruitful land

[male]

[female]

bridegroom is
white

bride is black

Sacrifice Imagery

communion of worshippers + offering to God

In NT, God does the
offering

immolation

Demonic counterparts
Animal

Prohibitions: the bull is popular fertility symbol
by nearby people, whom
Israelites had to stay clear
of.

The Golden Calf

The Hunter -
a contrastive
metaphor

Split of Neros Israel; N.
Israel adopts bull shrines

7.x (Erye)

Polarized structure of symbolism

Homo

Apocalyptic

Demonic (parody)

Bridegroom yang

Antichrist: tyrant of heathen
kingdom: Pharaoh, Nebuchadnezzar,
Divine Caesar (Nero)

Brīde yin

"Render unto Caesar" formula
broke down → persecutions

[Christ is the only I et the only male -
everyone else is female to him]

Revelations 17: Bride parody - The Great Whore -
Babylon-Rome (seven hills)

Antichrist = 666 cipher probably = Nero

Relation of Christ et Church

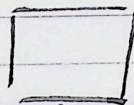
Apoc.

Virgin Mary

Woman crowned
with stars
(mythical birth
of Christ in
Rev. 12)

Church (NT)

Bride of Song of Songs



Demonic

Great
"Whore"

& theological irregularity
Jezebel "sexual"
Delilah

middle category:

the Redeemed types: Eve, Rachael

the forgiven harlot (duality expressed
in word "testament")

unfaithfulness of
Israel

Mary Magdalene

Isaiah 34: ruin of Babylon

"screech owl" = Lillith mother of demons

Animal symbolic parodies:

(Apoc.) Sheep \longrightarrow (Demonic) Bull

Demonic

parody demonic:
the strong et
successful
nations
- set up in spite of
God

manifest demonic: negative form of
alien nature
wild beast of prey: wolf, satyrs
(half animal, half devil)

monsters: DRAGON, SERPENT
(non-existent)

Job: Leviathan (Rahab) - sea
Behemoth - land

[crocodile]
hippo ← - both Egyptian
animals

Nature is subhuman.

To find something divine in Nature
is IDOLATRY. Man et nature are fellow beings.

Man must turn to his social institutions
natura naturans / naturata ?

Vegetable demonic parody

(Apoc.) harvest
bread et wine

⇒ (Demonic)

Caanan, where Israelites
settled was land of
Baal - sympathetic magic
god of vegetable fertility

Tammuz, Adonis,
Attis, Dionysos,
Balder,
Female principle
Cybele, Ishtar, Venus

Only spirits in nature
are demons.

Earth mother et Dying God

maternal
lamentations

Spring revival in

Death - Disappearance - Return

Public cults

a demonic parody
of Easter symbolism

Elusis mystery cult
et other mystery cults
derive from public
ones

12.x (Frye)

Apoc.

Human:

Society
(bride)

Individual
(bridegroom)

Animal:

sheep fold

lamb or shepherd

Vegetable:

fruit

bread et wine

Mineral:

city

temple or stone

See 2nd Epistle of Clemen: Christ is male,
church female

Demonic

H: Great whore

Tyrant

A: beast of prey

Behemoth

V: — dying god

Dying good of Earth Mother

a chorus of women in lament

Ezekiel 8, 14: women weeping for Tammuz

1 Kings 18: 28 - Baal is a fertility god - that is
his function - no voice →

weeping on the altar of self mutilation:

↳ growth of crops

↳ blood - rain
charms

Hosea 7, 14 - they gashed themselves for
bread of wine — King James mistranslates

Gardens of Adonis

Isaiah 17: 10 - the harvest shall be a
desperate sorrow

Zachariah 12: 10 - the great mourning

Hadadrimmon - Dying God

"me whom they have pierced" — vengeance

Luke 23: 27 - Christ on his way to sacrificial
death is followed by weeping women
"daughters of Jerusalem"

Whenever man catches God, he puts him
through one of his own rituals.

The dry, barren fig tree: Christ announces
his total opposition to that

Always in Demonic world, always a sense of
the hugeness of Nature & need to placate it

King killing & Scapegoat imagery

Sacrificial victim — a substitute for ruler

First-born son sacrificed to prolong father's life

2 Kings 3, 26-7 - King of Moab sacrifices
eldest son & it works (this passage expurgated)

Sacrifices to Moloch

2 Kings 16:3 - son "passes through the fire"

Founding of cities

Joshua 6:26 - ritual sacrifices of children

1 Kings 16:34 - to get a founding genius

II Samuel 21:9 - consultation of oracle

Saul's sons must be sacrificed

Harvest & famine

cycle of fertility renewed

Old Testament repudiation of this sacrifice
'Commutation' → sacrifice of animal (lamb)

Exodus 34

Earlier version of 10 Commandments

Ritual concerns

"All that openeth the womb is mine"
but first-born human redeemed by lamb
Abraham & Isaac

Passover story - the avenging angel

Judges 11: 30-40

Female dying god

Mica 6: 7 - firstborn belongs to god.
Commutation is a trick

14.x (MacPherson)

21. Oct Father Lee: "The Birth of opera from the
Spirit of Orpheus" Copper Room, Weinmann
St. Michael's

⌘ Oldest parts of temples are those dedicated to
Mother Goddess or underworld deities
Great natural abundance in these classical areas

Motya - an island settled by Carthaginians
ruins of a tophet: infant sacrifice sites
in stone cells, burned, all male,
not captives

Carthage - founded by Phoenicians
the ancient religion of Canaan

"Tophet" - a place of sacrifice, rites
of passing through the fire
(See Kings et Jeremiah)

Alien tradition to "classical" world.

The Four Ages Hesiod

Myth of the Four Ages | - fall of man
Prometheus

Five races: Golden Age - almost godlike ← "paleolithic"
Silver ← "neolithic"

Descent ↓
Bronze: violence
Race of Heroes - gone to Isles of Blessed
Iron

Plato's fable of different men

Ascent: Theogony: old → new gods is a sequence of
improvement in responsibility

Descent: Works et Days: old → new men is a degeneracy

Saturnalia: Lord of Misrule

reversal of hierarchy → incompleteness of
servants become masters → present order

↳ reflect the descent of life from
state of equality to a state of
social inhibitions

Saturn: assoc. with melancholy, lead

⌘ No ultimate moral valuation to the gods
individually - must be placed in context.

"Prefallen" man of Golden Age

Ovid: Law is a response to human depravity.

Material gain is moral loss

Idyllic quality of moral value of life

close to nature. [Not Biblical Nature =
lower than man], subordinate

Biblical metamorphoses are punishments]

Ovid: nature is a presence of benevolent

→ literature of the pastoral

Bible: no sense of outrage at exploitation

If Man is obedient to God, nature is
abundant?

Natural spirits are demons

Idolatry

Prometheus : "fore-thinker", foreknowledge
brother Atlas holds up the sky as punishment
formerly/king of Atlantis
tlaaw = to hold up, bear
Aeschylus : helper of man
Earlier : the trickster figure

19.x (Erye)

Pastoral - sheep - shepherd/lamb
Agricultural - fruitful - bread & wine
land

Urban - city - temple

OT : the type (Israel)

NT : antitype (Christ)

Sky father - Earth Mother annexed
to Judeo-Christian-Islamic

Temple in the city : lingam in yoni

Demonic parody

Christ shepherd → tyrant
victim → sacrificed son to prolong
tyrant's life

Absolom story - a sacrifice : hung by the hair
in a tree

TREES

Paradise world - oasis symbols

The Garden (female) et Trees of Life

metaphorically in the Center of the Garden (male) et
the same tree Bird in the Tree (male)

Forbidden tree et the serpent

Four Great Rivers (incl. the Ganges or
Indus)

Garden caused to come into being by
release of the waters (Genesis 2, 6)

All waters from one source : water of life.

| fresh water sea of life

(water of Death - the Flood)

our usual experience

Sumerian God Enki : Apsu - Lord of deep

Consort Tiamat : Goddess of waters
Waters of Death

Marduk kills her, splits her into two -

Heaven made of one half, Hell the other

"without form et void"

"the Deep"

tohu/wa bohu

tehom

— etymologically

identical to Tiamat

The original Dragon fight

Original Fall story: man capable of immortality. et cheated out of it by trickster figure with the help of frightened or jealous gods.

Man's nature not his real nature.

Fall: a separation into the dialectic of life et eternity et death

Growth of knowledge = of specialization =
of separation = of class structure et
exploitation = of secrets

Wisdom ~~X~~ Knowledge

Whore of Babylon named
"Mystery"

Waters above the sky et under the earth

Separation of the waters of life ⇒
creation

Noah's Flood: repetition of the Fall
in water symbolism

Revelations: man gets Tree of Life et
Water of Life back again

↓
Baptism

↓
Eucharist

Ezekiel - last 8 chapters : rebuilding
of the temple. Chap 47 - when the
temple is rebuilt, a spring of living
water flows eastward to the Dead

Sea et replaces the water of death.
A restored world - no more water of death
Man lives in the water of life
East: the quarter of renewal

Tree of Life - source of food - Christ "I am the vine"

Christ = tree

Ceremony of anointing with olive oil

"Messiah" = the anointed one

Messiah must be a branch of the Tree of Jesse
(Isaiah ~~4~~ 11)

Miraculously budding branch of the Tree
of Life

21.x.76 (MacPherson)

Prometheus: early trickster figure
outwits Zeus

± Early closeness of men & gods

The aetiological myth: the origins of a practice
Sacrifice story

Fire - giving something to the gods by burning it
perpetual fires

Prometheus steals it - hides it in a pithy fennel
stalk

(Milton: PL -
tree)

Craftsmanship - metallurgy

P → culture hero, skills & craft teacher thus
molder of men, creator

P. chained - eaten by eagle or vulture (secondary
punishment
assoc.)

the liver: seat of emotions

Release by Herakles

(Body Symbolism: see Onians)

Aeschylus: Prometheus Bound

the great perpetual sufferer

Atlas & Prometheus: geographical polarity
(west) (East)

Pandora :

(Theogony) - the first woman: a punishment
a reaction to a matriarchial world ?

The Epic Cycle (now lost)

Helen of Troy - the fatal woman

Why did she open the jar? where from?

Mostly evils come from it, but hope remains
so it is available?

Taboo broken

Bag of winds given to Odysseus

- the contents themselves neither good nor evil,
it's the prohibition

- the mixed blessing (intertwining of good & evil
characteristic of this life).

[Oxymoron : oxy = sharp, moron = dull]

// The double nature //

fire that warms & burns

on the level of the

(gods, a clear separation of good & evil is possible,
but in man's life, blessings are mixed
(the incarnation))

Pandora originally a fertility goddess -
the all-giver (rather than the all-gifted)

Earth Goddess
→ seductress } change expresses
collapse of old order
into technological age of
luxury

(see NO Brown: Hermes the Thief)

Biblical attitude to technology

A O Lovejoy: Primitivism

"soft primitivism" nostalgia

"hard primitivism" descent from rugged
strength et
independence

The Flood (Ovid)

Sumerians' story: Enki warns the just man

Gilgamesh: the pious Utnapishtim

Classical version: a recreation

25.x (Frye)

Demonic

Tree of Death
Water of Death

Paradysal

Tree of Life
Water of Life

Waters above firmament et below earth
At the Apocalypse, a sacred marriage
of the waters. (Enoch)

Parody demonic tree

Ezekiel: Cedar of Lebanon bare of leaves
in garden of tyrannous kingdom
This is a cosmic axis mundi, but a
heathen power due for disaster
Symbolically = tree of knowledge

Daniel 4, 10: Nebuchadnezzar's dream
he is a tree, axis mundi, a link
between heaven et earth, but due to
be felled

Manifest Demonic: what happens afterward
to the parody demonic, after abandonment
et return to the jungle

Demonic

TYRANT et victim
must be different people -
master/slave; there must
be a victim to maintain
tyrant's power

Sacrifice of eldest son

Paradisaal

Messiah: master et
victim must be the
same person

Manifest demonic tree on which the victim is hung

Joshua kills the five kings, hangs them on
5 trees, removes them at sundown (see Deut 21.23)

et puts them in a cave Joshua 10.26

Thus to Christ also

[what is true is what fits the pattern, not what
"happened"]

Thus Joshua (type) → Christ (antitype)
Gal. 3.13

Essential meaning of
the victim tree is to establish et point to
the crucifixion tree

[contrast: synchronic myth - cycles of nature
Biblical diachronic myth - divine impingement
on human life
Heilsgeschichte ≠ weltgeschichte]

Fall - Genesis 3.5 : ye shall be (as) Gods →
plurality of gods. Psalms 82.6 : Jehovah
in a council of the Gods : ye are gods but
shall die as men. John 10.34 : those who
receive word of god are gods (who die).

Polarization : sons of God // God

Contrast Great chain in Homer, which
shows mono- et polytheism are but different
perspectives on the same show

Range of sacrificial imagery

Parody demonic

Human sacrifice of
victim to prolong
tyrant's life

Law OT

First born
animal as
ransom for
human firstborn

Apoc.

Sacrifice of
firstborn son
of God et Man

Prebiblical original sacrifice (see Frazer)

Leader of community killed - body eaten -
blood drunk

(how connected to Dragon sacrifice) ??

Above Edenic world are spiritual beings

Angels — parodied by Devils → in human
realm = heathen
Gods

Isaiah 13:21 Overthrow of Babylon: the
wild beasts on the outskirts of civilization

Isaiah 34:14 Lillith (screech owl)

Leviticus 16

Ritual for Day of Atonement

Scapegoat (a mistranslation —

actually Goat for Azazel = dismissal,
entire removal

Y ~~BY~~

YI X I Y - an ancient technical term for
entire removal of sin of a
community

27. x (MacPherson)

Flood stories - see Frazer's book on the OT
Folklore in the old Testament

one just man (group) saved from a corrupt world
Sodom destruction

see "remnant" in concordance

Classical story:

destruction of the giants

connected to Biblical hint of the forbidden loves
of the angels or the daughters of men

Delphos. Themis

Ducalion et Pyrrha

New couple of humans: heads veiled → reverence,
humans not supposed to look

Knots loosed - a knot hinders birth

Λαος = sons / Λαας = stones

Human hospitality vs inhospitality to the gods
Lot in Sodom

Correspondences of Myth with historic action:

1. Cultural action

fall of Earth Mother to sky father

2. Ritual

Not with "fact"

Ovid's interest is in entertaining an audience
already quite familiar with the material
- ingenuity of composition, modulation
highly artful

Io beloved by Jove, turned into heifer, watched
by Argus, who is outwitted by Mercury et
killed

Juno sets the eyes of Argus into the tail
of the peacock

Aphrodite - Dove

Apollo - swan - patron god of poetry
nightingale

Little direct animal worship, as in Egypt

Philomela

§ Hillis Miller recent works in periodical index

Butterfield (worth) The Tree at the Navel
Butterworth, Eric of the Earth

[EO James]

BL 600 B83

2.xi (Frye)

Manifest Demonic

Sodom - sunk under Dead
Sea; Egypt sunk under
Red Sea

Parody Demonic

strong heathen
kingdoms

Babylon

[Urban]

Jerusalem

Rev 11:8

Bible to be read spiritually

Metaphorically only one Demonic
city - Sodom sunk

Agricultural

Fertility god

Earth mother

) parody → manifest = Waste
Land

Sheepfold & flock
(Apoc)

| shepherd = lamb |

Leviathan
(parody)

Demons of
Wilderness

Serpent of
Eden

(manifest)

Bride &
Bridegroom

→ Great whore
Tyrant

→ Victim society
Slave society
martyrs

Tree & water of
Life

— Tigris &
Euphrates
(support Egypt
& Babylon)

Accursed tree
Barren tree

†
Sea of Death

Cross: both means of regaining Tree of Life
or
the tree of death.

Christ's cursing of fig tree - total separation
from the world of death

Burning bush - tree of life

Parody demonic is successful, but it is built
on tyrant et victim

Spiritual world: parody manifest
nature gods devils

angels - intermediaries
associated with the sky

Seraphim et Cherubim

Isaiah 6

Ezekiel 1

Metaphorical structure derived from sky world

Planetary bodies - birds

Seraphim: red - of fire et love

Cherubim: blue - contemplation

Community of Angels et single soul

"Beasts" around throne of God in Rev.

zoa = living beings: man, lion, ox, eagle

Four beasts that pull (Matt) (Mark) \ John
the chariot of God's word Luke

The eagle = John : In the beginning
was the Word

Acts 2 : cloven tongues of fire et mighty wind

Temple et City

Gift of tongues / Curse of tongues
New temple tower of Babel

John 1:32 Spirit descends like Dove

the Spirit of God brooded on the waters.
like a dove on its eggs

Wheel image : Cosmos as machine ^{in itself} → God as
Maker - the artificial creation myth

Spiritual - metaphorical understanding

Fire : Apocalyptic images are on fire
Man will live in fire. Burning bush
burns but is not consumed ⇒ a spiritual
fire — the 7 branched candlestick

The Phoenix

"The Burning Babe" Robert Southwell

Christ as rising Sun

Glowing city - fiery city - Temple of Solomon

Gold et jewels

Nondestructive fire // Destructive Fire

Fiery furnace of
Nebuchadnezzar

Celebration of
a transfigured
mind

← ("Song of the three holy
children" - Apocrapha

Furnace of purification
the crucible

transubstantiation (antitype in NT)

Fourfold symmetry

~~God~~

God - Son - Ghost

|
is two

not Mary

9. xi (Erye)

Demonic

Apoc.

Spiritual
paradise
human
pastoral

angels > spirits
tree of water of life
bride & bridegroom
flock & lamb
bread & wine
city & temple

Series of metaphorical statements which
cannot be adequately translated into
any other language. Any other rational
formulation has the strong smell of mortality.

Dante, Paradiso : all distances from God
are equal

All these things are identical. They form
a hierarchy in our experience, but in the
spirit there is no hierarchy. ^{infinite or eternal}

All things are equally alive, stone et angels
Trinity. No assertion in the original text. It was
inserted into Latin text.

In this world $3 = 1$

Inner chamber: Holy of Holies, an empty chamber

Daniel 11, 31 : the abomination of desolation =
desecration of Holy of Holies by placing of
an image of Zeus in it? Sacred space

Matt 24: 15 - ^{disappears from the world}
altogether: the archetype of
the triumph of evil.

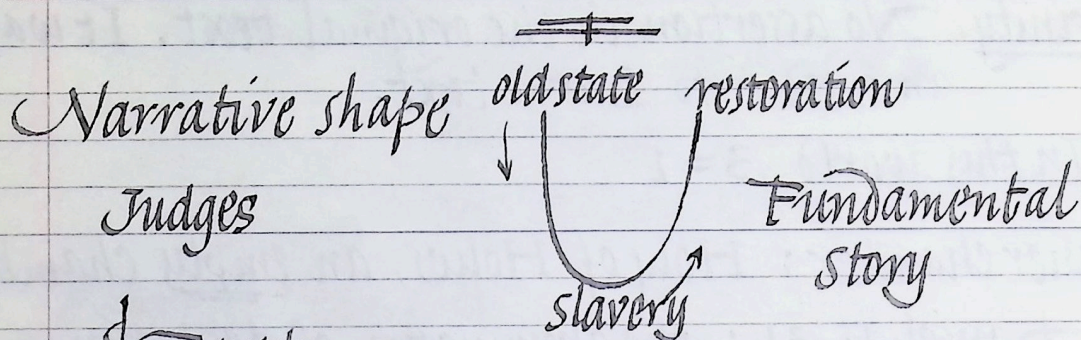
Metaphorical identity: Eden = Jerusalem =
highest point in the world

Pilgrimage to Jerusalem = an ascent, a spiral
ascent up the holy mountain

Center of the world. Focus of all vision.

~~In~~ Zach 14: 16 Blessing of fertility remains
only to those who ascend to ~~fertility~~ Jerusalem.

Memory of pastoral days -
the portable tabernacle: wherever you
happen to be = center of the world
Each Christian is the temple of God.



Myth: forsaking God is not action but failure to act

Symbolically, nothing happens but salvation of Israel from Egypt

restoration is an act of God et not of man at all: Grace

The only such journey completed is the descent into Egypt — symbolic Egypt, the "furnace of ire"

acts of God are all concerned with redemption of man. God does all the acting. →

problems of predestination

The question is: what is the source of energy?

In the Biblical vision, God is the only source
to act is to preserve in one's own being,
which is to betray one's self.

"Shall there be evil in the City
if the Lord hath not done it?"

Only one thing happens in the New Testament:
creation of New Israel around the risen Christ

Book of Wisdom 19: 18

Vision of ascending metamorphosis
elements transfigured. Man lives in water & fire.

= Resurrection & its anticipation, the Transfiguration

Life of Jesus not biography
a repetition of the story of Israel

(11. xi) Macpherson

Ovid Metamorphoses Phaëtheon

analog to the fall, downward change in being

Ethiopians become black → shining faces: blessedness

↳ fire → burnt faces → a calamity in blackness

(comp. Homer: they are blameless)

Ambiguity.

See Milton Il Penseroso. Dr. Johnson's Rasselas,
modeled on raising princes

Verdi: Aida

Ovid's assoc. Ethiopia → land of the Sun

Heliös - a Titan

Apollo comes to acquire assoc. with Sun, but
he's not in origin. Healing, Spirit of plague.

Heliös - chariot & golden cup Mice

Phoebus = Apollo

Interest in heavenly bodies is late in classical
tradition

Heliös' rash promise

unbreakable oath of the gods -

the binding magic in words themselves

(Swearing by the power of river Styx)

Natural parallel in the Bible

Isaiah 14: How art thou fallen, o Lucifer
foolish aspiration.

Lucifer = Phosphorus =

Caananite

Divinities

light bringer =

morning star

See Kerényi, The Gods of the Greeks

Phaithon = Lucifer

¢ PASTORAL

At end of Book I, pastoral emphasis

Arcadia, rivers Ladon, Alpheus

mount. Maenalus

favored by Jove & by pure nymphs
a magical world rather than ethical:

chastity = commitment

invasion of privacy of Gods

passing proscribed limits

Tiresius (Book III)

Diana hunting

Pan, horned & goat-legged, feeder & tender
of flocks

Hermes & Apollo, cattle owning

Muses

Two scenes : 1. Rural scene with these

pastoral beings

nurture, sympathetic

2. Abandoned, dead nature

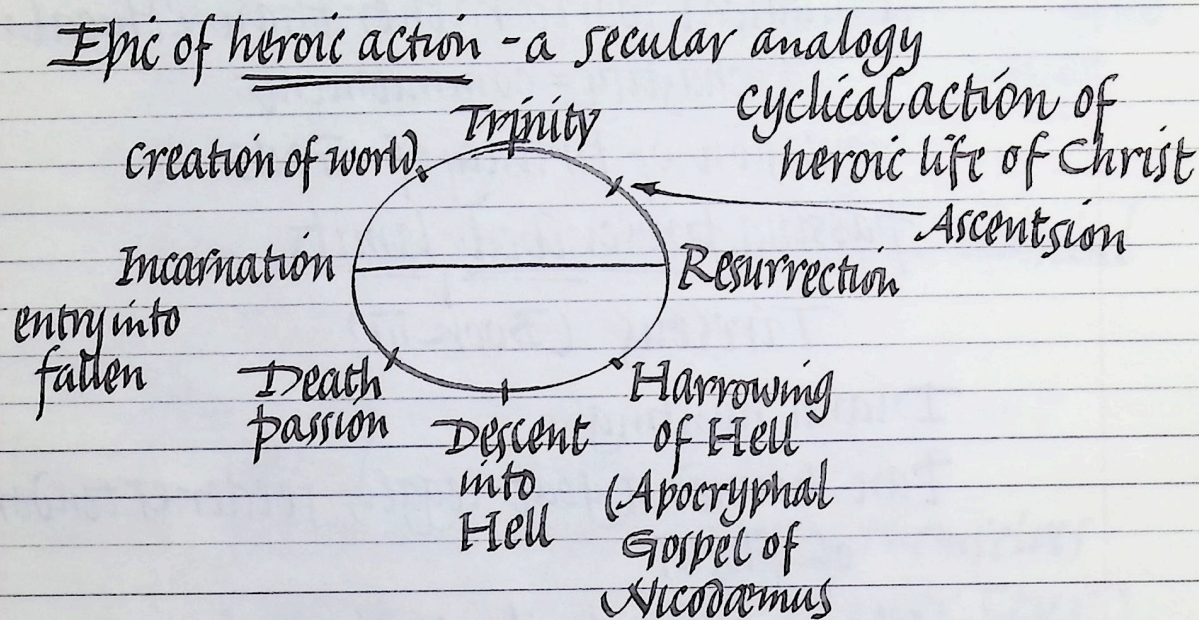
pastoral elegy. Link broken

Fairies as link between man & surroundings

II "Cumaean Gates" Jackson Knight in Vergil Hooke The Labrynth

(16.xi - Frye)

Structure of Action



Not a closed circle, once for all time, (once upon a time)
but starts in God et ends in God

Christ starts in middle of trinity et ends
at Father's right hand → revolution in
nature of Godhead

Descent et Harrowing are diagrammatically
necessary but not Biblical

Only completed movement in ~~A~~ OT is
deliverance of Israel - this is the
only action.

et corresponding journey of Christ

Israel

Attempted extermination
of Jews by Pharaoh
Moses escapes from
massacre

Joseph; Miriam (Koran
equates)

Organization of 12
tribes

Forty years of wandering
Law given from Mt. Sinai
10 Command.

Numbers 21.6

Fiery Serpent on the
pole as cure of serpent
bites

Death of Moses just
outside Promised Land

(failure of law to
redeem. Moses' successor
is Joshua)

Christ

slaughter of
innocents (Herod)

Jesus escapes - is saved

Joseph; Mary

Gathering of 12
disciples

Forty days in the
wilderness

Sermon on the Mount -
commentary on
10 Command.

Crucifixion - as
Moses lifted up
the serpent

Conquest of hell
et death by Jesus

("Jesus" = "Joshua")
(Gk) / (Heb)

angelic order to call
him Jesus \Rightarrow reign of
law is over

[The law cannot redeem]

Israel Christ

the long version

Matthew et Luke are late versions of nativity
Core of John et Mark are older.

Story of Passion carefully parallel to Passover →
Christ is sacrificial lamb

- NT
- 1 Friday night: death et burial
 - 2 Saturday: disappearance into lower world
 - 3 Sunday: resurrection

stages of
the
whole
life of
Christ

- OT
- 1 First passover: blood of lamb
 - 2 Passage through Red Sea (world of death)
 3. Deliverance from Red Sea - creation of Israel

Pauline baptism - a symbolic death et return

I Corinthians 10: Red Sea - baptism
Eucharist (mana
from heaven = Christ)

Commentary on Exodus
Book of Wisdom 18: 14

Word of God = armed warrior who descends in
the first passover

|| Birth of Christ at midnight
[the ritually correct hour]

Queen of Sheba coming to Solomon to hear
wisdom

|| Three wise men coming to the source of wisdom,
Christ

recreation of unfallen world who has the key
of wisdom

18. xi (MacPherson)

Note Oxford Bible Atlas

4000 - 3300 BC Sumerians enter Tigris-Euphrates
probably from mountains of NE

UR ET BABYLON - area of settlement

Cuneiform writing

Ziggurat

— Gilgamesh (3000 BC)

2200 Sumerians conquered Sargon I - Akkadian
Semitic invaders. Area called Akkad
absorb all but language

Amurra invaders. King Hammurabi

Assyrians conquer Babylon 1100 BC

Assurbanipal's library 7 Cent BC

Gilgamesh Epic widely spread

Babylonian Mythology

available since 1830's through Rawlinson
who translated Darius inscription -
three languages

Three Myths

Creation: Marduk kills Tiamat

Descent Ishtar to Underworld (Inanna)

The Flood et the one just man

(Sumerian originals)

but no dragon killing

Pastoral World

close assoc. with Paradisal world

Central myths: origins of seasons

oldest is Ovid - Demeter et Persephone

from Homeric Hymn to Demeter

De = Ge = Gaia = earth mother

cults → giver of grain - power of growth

Persephone = Kore = the maiden =

earth mother - New growth

Demeter related to wandering et sorrowing

Ishtar et Isis

Ovid story - tricky et modified

look to Homeric source

Natriarchy
is
central

Pluto's abduction

PL IV: field of Enna - ancient corn growing region

Description of Eden

fall of Eve

promise of redemption

Spenser's suffering Arthur

Homeric Hymn, tr. ~~D. Hine~~ D. Hine

closeness to cult practices at Eleusis

Demeter's temple

Persephone's eating of the pomegranate

↳ fertility

23. xi (Frye)

Principle of metaphorical identity

individual = society

↓
the king, hero, priest, prophet but priest & king separated in Hebrew trad.

Principle of hereditary succession // Principle of Election

David & Solomon

the work begun by David is completed by Solomon

Legendary Solomon - the wise King

Priesthood is hereditary

Prophet is only elected. Ecstasy.

Moses is a prophet, Elijah also.

OT: the Law et the Prophecy

Genesis 14: 18. King of Salem (Jerusalem)

→ "king of righteousness in the land of peace"

Melchizedek, mysterious king et priest

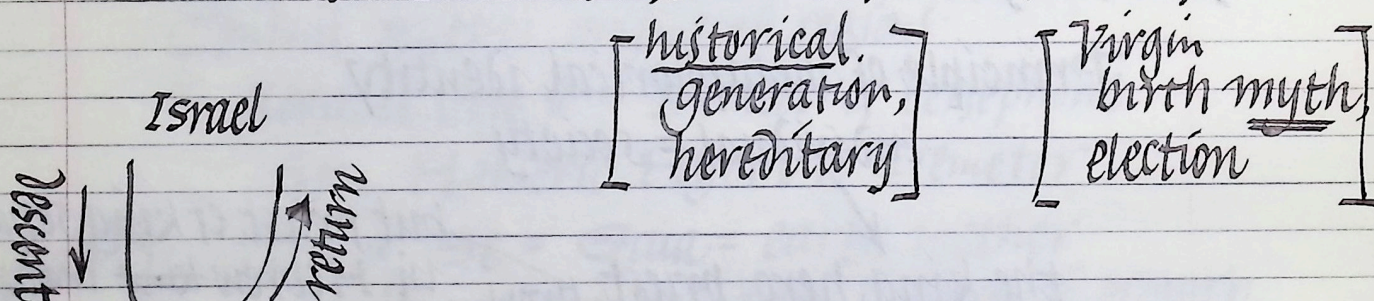
Psalms 110. addressed to the king. → king = priest

Simon Macabeus king = priest

Jesus compared. Hebrews 7, 6: Melchizedek
without father, mother. → Divine election

Hereditary Descent // Divine Choice that overrules

Matthew 1: contrast 1: 1-17 with 1: 18ff



humiliation → Buried symbolism. Sacrifice of failing king
modulated into renewal of king's power following
on ritual of humiliation in Babylon.

II Samuel 6, 19. David's moment of greatest triumph
He dances et is rebuked et answers.

↳ moment of humiliation.

David = author of Psalms, who reaches depth of
humiliation, e.g., Psalm 22.

Psalm 22.14ff → passion of Christ
"why hast thou forsaken me?"
Quotes Ps 22.1

David in the form of the last king of Judah
suffers greatest humiliation.

Passion. Judas Iscariot.

No secrecy about Jesus' location. Why betrayer?
Zach. 11.10ff: 30 pieces of silver = price of slave
sale → humiliation. Suffering servant.

As Israel sinks, prophets experience greater humiliation.

Isaiah: prophet of descent

Isaiah 53: idolatry. God cannot be seen —

what can be seen is irrelevant → he is despised
et rejected of men → humiliation

Humiliation = lowest point of Hell

Belief ≠ evidence

at Resurrection,
Christ is invisible to all
but a few.

Doubting Thomas → evidence

The Immanent
Presence

Inside = outside

God within God without

25. xi (MacPherson)

Homeric Hymns to Demeter

the pomegranate seed

Eleusis Cult

drink of barley water: kykeon

magical relation of rite & growth of corn

mystery $\mu\upsilon\epsilon\tau\epsilon\rho$, a concealment

development: initiation of individual to
ensure happy afterlife

the buried seed growing in the spring

John 12: 24

Venus & Adonis
(Cybele & Attis)
(Inanna & Dammu)

Great Goddess &
fragile consort

Ovid: Cyprus - Aphrodite
worshipped

"delicate Adonis
is dying" Sappho

ritual prostitution in Babylon misunderstood by Greeks
the unnatural love:

Eastern myth & cult practice tolerated
practices condemned by Western religions

Britomart in EQ III: sense of deepest guilt

myrrh
Love of Myrror for her father -
her wanderings et metamorphosis
myrrh - binding up et healing wounds - healing
preparing body for death - sacrifice
gold - divinity
frankensence - sacrifice, ritual incense

Adonis born from Myrra
↳ given to Persephone, who falls in love with
him
Adonis half the year in Hades → meaning of the
natural cycle
• Adonis' death et transformation into flower

Gardens of Adonis. Lamentation. Rejoicing.
Spring. Fall. Midsummer

15 Idyll of Theocritus

Plutarch. 415 BC exptd. against Syracuse
Frazer, original ed.

PreChristian elements in Easter ritual
in Mediterranean countries. Dying God.

Indigenous religions met by Hebrews

II Kings 23 - cleansing the temple

Ezekiel 8 - vision of abominations

Mater doloris : weeping women

Relationship of
consort et goddess : mother, sister, mistress →
she is timeless, Ewig-weibliche
she is the active one, she descends to Hades

29. xi (Frye)

Narrative : Christ universal antitype

King David et Solomon - suffering servant

Prophets Moses et Elijah - word of God

Septuagint order : Malachi at end 4.5.

adjuration : ["my messenger

Moses et Elijah will come again

John the Baptist spiritually identical with
Elijah, but no reincarnation.

Elijah et Enoch never died

[the first judgement by water (Enoch =
last judgement by fire (Elijah) Noah's grandfather)

Mystery about death
of Moses : did not die "natural" death

Jude 9: Michael et Satan dispute over body
of Moses - division of aspects of the Law.

Rev. 11: two witnesses - the olive trees
Christ flanked by trees et candlesticks - the
apocalyptic form of demonic crucifixion

Moses et Elijah - they have powers to shut heaven

Manifest demonic - Sodom et Egypt sunk

Rev 11.8

the great city "spiritually" = metaphorically

Demonic symbols -

Egypt et Babylon =

dragon, leviathan = sea monster

Ancient dragon killing myths - Marouk et

body of creation made out
of Tiamat's body

identified with demonic kingdoms

Tiamat

cosmic monster
of chaos

tohu wa bohu

tehom

Apocalyptic

Monster in the sea is the sea

Isaiah 27, 1; 51.9 Dragon killing

Prophet calls on God to destroy Rahab, the Dragon for the
third time: Day of the Lord

Ezekiel 29 Catching the monster - Pharaoh of Egypt

Nile River = Egypt = Dragon = Pharaoh
destroyed on the last day.

Messiah is dragon killer

Psalm 89.9-10 - thou hast broken Rahab in pieces

Creator is ruler & tamer of chaos (Lake of Galtale)

Psalm 87.4 - Rahab & Babylon

object of hooking Leviathan - redemption of Jerusalem,
inside body of Leviathan

✠ Demonic world of time/space - we are imprisoned
inside it.

Apocalyptic world is here & now

(future is metaphor for the present !)

Buried
in the
Bible

St. George & the Dragon

old & impotent king, land is sterile. Sea monster is
in the wasteland. King's daughter rescued by
hero from over the sea

└ Christ rescues Bride Jerusalem from impotent king Adam
Dragon = body of death in hell.

Faerie Queen T

~~then~~ [Infinite & Eternal in apocalyptic sense
beyond time & space
In time/space, here & now don't exist]

Demonic sense: indefinite & unending

Leviathan is body of time & space.

The hero must slay the dragon by going inside the dragon
to rescue the Bride who is already swallowed.

Jonah Sea, sea monster

2, 2: Out of the world of sheol = grave

Descent to the world of death et return

Jesus descent into mouth of sea monster et harrowing of hell

Theseus in the labyrinth.

descent into the sea

Jesus as fish, fishers of men

baptism = ritual death by water

the flood, waters of death

Job "behemoth" = the intensive plural (see Esdras, Rev., Daniel)
two monsters - land et sea monsters

Rev. 12, 1. Woman in childbirth et red dragon - birth of messiah
original creation of the world.

Milton identifies dragon = satan. War in Heaven.

Serpent of Eden = Satan (Diabolos = person opposite in a lawsuit)

Evil principle = accuser, prosecutor

Read Job.

2. xij (MacPherson)

Dying god → pastoral elegy (Lycidas), Whitman's elegy
the flower

hyacinth, the poppy (Remembrance Day)

Theocritus Idyls. Pastoral tradition.

Idyl 1 → pastoral elegy et pastoral love complaint

Idyl 15 - weeping for Adonis

Adonis also a shepherd.

Homeric Hymn to Aphrodite

love for Anchises. Elsewhere Anchises is slain

Gilgamesh taunts Ishtar,

with the fates of her previous~~ly~~ lovers when
she entices him.

Penguin ed.

Ishtar: come to me - tone like Song of Songs

Gilgamesh: the story of her lovers

— Dangerous to scorn the goddess!

Adonis rituals witnessed by Theocritus.

Bion: laments for Adonis — literary versions

Moschus: lament for Bion

the first lament for human death without
divine element.

Literary form born out of religious ritual.

Elegiac situation: clamor or death of youth
something disappears. Order → disorder

Mourning of nature: fertility → sterility

Sense of loss reconciled: what goes down must
come up, but human loss irrevocable

Return of Spring deepens man's sense of
alienation (Eliot)

Solace: Christian hope or continuity of poetry
continuity of nature - Romantic lit.

Return of old relationship of man & nature

Departed person taken into the order of nature.

Christian afterlife works against this.

The artificial world: the Golden Age (Virgil)
imaginative rather than merely natural
fertility.

nymphs → muses

man's nature vs. nature (naturans ^{natura} vs naturata)

Orpheus.

— Muses. Invocation of Urania in PL

Thrace: cold, northerly, barbarous

Orpheus - a golden age figure? — destroyed by a
"Euridice" = wide ruling = Persephone snake

Magical power → "unfallen" nature
stones come alive

Christian catacomb art

Orpheus = good shepherd, prince of Isaiah's
peaceable kingdom.

— Vergil's Eclogues

Sibylline Books - prophecies

R. H. Charles, ed., Apocrypha & Pseud-
Epigrapha

Orpheus' descent.

Euridice (tabooed) walks behind.

Interpretation of mythology

1. Demythologizing : Euhemerism

2. Allegorizing

natural - processes of nature

moral - action

spiritual - revelation

4.1.77 (Frye) Book of Job

Role of the tragic

tragedy has very little place in the Bible

The Greek & Hebrew backgrounds:

the Contract: Gods, Man, Nature

in polytheism, close contact between Gods & Nature

pagan contract: order of nature (gods become metaphors)
development

Man +
human society

Divine ruler is the connecting point of order of Nature
& Man

Hebrew contract: God & Man
Nature is excluded.

Idolatry = numinosity in Nature

Greek
gods
society
nature

Hebrew
God
Israel
(nature)

no miracles - all is will
of God

↳ Notion of Natural Law - Science

Hebrew contract swings on the comic myth

descent / return hidden from audience
inherently irrational

In the tragic myth:

As gods get slowly squeezed out of the Gk. contract,
so the divine in man gets eliminated & he is
left with his humanity only.

Tragedy - key to Gk. culture

In the Bible, no tragic hero, no divine Hero
as Achilles. Sombre stories are ironic, not tragic.

In Hebrew society, emphasis on primogeniture,
hereditary succession

yet persistent theme of oldest son passed over

Cane is first born

Ishmael, first son of Abraham, but line
passes to Isaac

Esau passed over in favor of Jacob

"Jacob" = usurper

Ruben (Jacob's son) passed over - he approached
one of his father's women. Joseph chosen.

Anxiety about continuity

human scheme overruled by Divine election
of the younger son

Saul chosen king, but he is passed
over for David. Saul nearest to tragic hero.

Tragedy is beginning to form about these passed
over first sons.

¢ but tragedy depends on the suspicion that
the Divine is malicious, if not evil
[See Lear]

NT: Jesus is the eldest son

(Exodus: whoever opens the womb
belongs to God \Rightarrow first born is
symbolically a tragic hero, sacrificed to
God)

Rite of succession & Divine overruling	
Jesus' descent from House of David	Divine conception

Anxiety of Continuity (sutratma)

The King is dead, long live the king!

WISDOM

the wise man does things the way they are done
Authority of tradition, cultural convention

Wisdom literature

Proverbs: concretion of communal wisdom
author is "a king" but audience is
a democratic one

Inherently secular: how to get along,
maintain continuity of life without
surprises

Fable: other democratic form
kernel of Job is a fable

Ahikar - an older man who is betrayed
by a youth whom he befriends
et is exiled et then returns
et spins proverbs against youth

✓ (origin of Aesop), related to Tophet
fit into the traditional pattern

Contrast discontinuous, radical nature of
Prophecy against conservative wisdom

In Job, the wisdom proves inadequate.

JOB

The disasters from Satan.

Satan's argument

Ordeal of Job turns on conception of property

Property \subset identity [Lear]

How much can a man lose & retain his identity?

The limits of identity.

Irony: Job, stricken with boils, is always human. He cannot defy God, strike a heroic pose.

Comforters: they sit by him silently for 7 days, but they are full of

Deuteronomy: how to make the catastrophe morally intelligible, but they never think of the deal between God & Satan — a sardonic grin looming over the whole action.

6.1.77 (MacPherson)

Sandy's Ovid: the mind does not love the body but its own similitude in bodily form

Neoplatonism / myth of Narcissus

Plotinus → physical beauty, the world of the body opposed to the life of the soul.

Assimilation in Renaissance into Christian thought

Ficino quoted by Sandys

Perseus Ovid Bk IV
from Argos

Birth: ancestors twins

Denens et Egyptus

warring twins descendants

Deniae et shower of gold

her father shuts up her et Perseus in a arca
(like Moses)

ancient fear of blood, guilt: vengeance,
not moral principle, the spilt blood
itself

To avoid it, unwanted one put to sea
in a leaky boat

Community punishment

Deniae et Perseus survive. King Polydectes sets
Perseus impossible task: head of Medusa
ugly face: scare away evil

"apotropaic" - turning away

Perseus befriended by Athena et Hermes
mirror et scycle of adamant

Perseus & Atlas

Rescue of Andromeda, daughter of Cassiopeia, queen of Ethiopia, who is chained to the rock, attacked by a monster.

Athena wears the Gorgon head ^{on} her aegis

11.1.77 (Frye)

Order of books of Bible from Septuagint, but Heb. order different

Gen - Esther: law, history, ritual

Job - Malachi: poetry, wisdom, prophecy

(accidental sense)

a new Genesis: Fall of the state of Man.

Fall in Eden: breach of contract - the baited trap
a mythical answer

But in Job, no way Job is responsible → not how you get in, but
how to get out

God's breach of contract?

God is being tested

JOB is edited.

(1) The folk tale

(2) Colloquy between Job & Friends (imported elements) - Elihu section

(3) Revelation

interference?

Piety in Job & friends: they cannot conceive of a God-Satan deal

Three friends: God is just, therefore man is wrong, or no justice

Job: unconscious wrong. An attempt to work out in moral argument
is nonsense. Job's punishment out of proportion.

Conception of God needs changing.

Job is a martyr. Not in love with death.

Elihu: the old assumptions of wisdom.

He sums up the friends' argument,

God enters argument: curious irrelevance.

Shaw: the bullying God, smug & complacent

"Problem" in the Book of Job - as if puzzle
but no serious religion out of puzzle-solving.

Gertrud Stein's "What is the question?"

If God had answered a question, he would have to ^{to accept} ~~had assumed~~ the
assumptions in the question — the mental level of the questioner.

Therefore God refuses to answer that question

& formulates better questions.

Response: brushes away argument about justice

No tragedy here.

Demonic symbols

Satan - disappears from the action as does the "deal," but

Behemoth
Leviathan } God's poem at the end

pointed out to Job, therefore Job is no longer inside the
monster. He knows what we do not know: what the dragon
looks like from the outside.

Uniquely in Job: Satan & Leviathan as creatures of God
elsewhere they are wholly demonic, outside God's order.

But, in mythical terms, chaos & darkness dialectically incorporated
& simultaneously excluded from creation
Separation of waters from dry land, light from darkness

Wisdom → Prophecy → Revelation (how they are connected)

Theme of Wisdom: renouncing power (the Buddha)
for the sake of enlightenment

Antichrist is Emperor;

Temptation of Christ to become World-Ruler

Ecclesiastes: the king

Job is powerful man, ruler of his world, whose power is taken away.

Prophetic Theme: confrontation with society, sacrifice →

Forcible loss of Job

Job 3:13 Job → rulers of this world

Job's reaction: Job become adversary; he compares himself
to the Monster

At the end: he is within the order

How did he become enemy of God?

Innocence / Guilt doesn't work. There are no
innocent people in the fallen world, in the order of
fallen nature which hits at random.

Order of Nature outside the contract

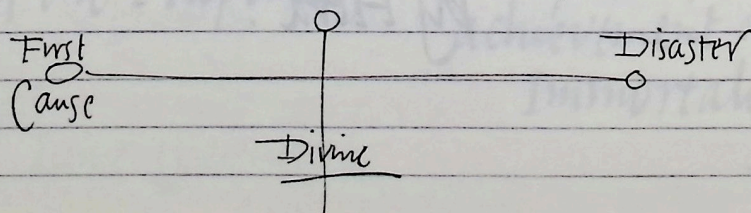
Perspective: Job in time/space, God is not
distortions

No punishment.

God's rhetorical questions overwhelm Job.

Causality must be carried back to First Cause.

No sense in this, Don't look there, God's not there



13.1.77 (McPherson)

Perses: fulfilment of oracle, return
to reunite kingdom
Herakles, his descendant.

Bellerophon:

grandfather Sisaphus - he tried to cheat death
Croetus' wife accuses B. of seducing her -
he flees to another court where he must kill
the CHIMERA "she goat"

B. uses Pegasus ("fountain")
connected to the Muses - the flying horse
PL Book VII

B. mounts Pegasus & he kills Chimera

B. becomes infected with hybris, tries to
mount heaven

Herakles

birth: Amphitryon's wife Alcmene is
impregnated by Zeus then by her husband

"Herakles" = glory of Hera ?

his opposites - his brother & second cousin

1st exploit: killing of snakes as a baby sent
by Hera.

Hera's persecutions.

Hercules' labor under the domination of his brother.

H. as sun god, his labor as zodiacal passages -
a correspondence fitting Gilgamesh better

1 The Nemean lion ...

All labor are either very close or very far away

2 Hydra -

3 The Hind

4 The Boar

5 Birds of the Marsh

6 The stable cleansing

7 Wild Bull of Minos

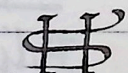
8 Diomedes

9 Amazons' golden girdle

10 Cattle of King Gerion - the Pillars of Hercules

ne plus ultra : the limit of human knowledge

Portuguese navigators revised this motto

\$ as derived from pillars draped with flowers
on safe return from beyond. 

11 Underworld's Cerebus

12 Apples of the Hesperides

) conquest of death
achievement of
Immortality

golden apples guarded by serpent
↳ daughters of Hesperus : Hesperides
Garden of Hesperides
Hercules gets help of a shape-changer, Nereus
[see Proteus - PLIII alchemy
Thetis, shape-changing, is won by Peleus

18.1.77 (Frye)

Dramatic form of Job. Resemblance to tragedy.

Futility of Job as morality play.

Technically a comedy.

In tragedy, process of catastrophe is mysterious.

The mystery in Job about that process - he wants
confrontation (his inner security) - but the
mystery is intolerable.

Forum of the Symposium - another operative form
in Job.

Metaphysical discussion.

Comforters.

Eliphaz, Prophet, Sense of Rev.

Bildad - follower of tradition

Zophar - moral law.

(Agape - Caritas : love of God for man
philia) - social love, friendship
eros - individual, founded on sexual feeling,
human rooted. (Greek)

In Biblical conception, eros is outside of the
relationship between agape et philia

Wisdom.

1 Primitive: wisdom as prudence (Proverbs)
following the prescribed way - the Law

2 Wisdom as fulfilling of knowledge (particular,
agglutinative)

Knowledge is first conscious, then unconscious
Wisdom is potential

(Aristotle)

3 Wisdom as detached awareness (pointed to in Job)
the human mind. Detachment from
everything. Awareness of Self.

⌘ All made objective - what is aware becomes
nothingness, totally excluded from the
body of the Leviathan in which we
live. He is liberated!

"Now mine eye seeth thee" - he is
outside"

(But seeing of God is impossible, it is idolatry)

→ He sees by means of God.

Repetition of the creation, preceded by extinction of consciousness

Total withdrawal from time & space

liberates Job.

Restoration - profoundly irrational. Like
awaking from a dream? ← a twisting around

Tragedy: recognition of the inevitable,
but an episode

Job's misery is utterly credible. His restoration
is utterly irrational & incredible.

Shakespeare's last plays - unbelievable action

The original language was much tougher.

19:23 The greatest imaginations come from
the most oppressed

└ the permanence of the word.

19:25 "redeemer" so'el

the kinsman who looks after you when you're
dead

avenger, advocate, council for the defense
against the Accuser.

20.1.77 (MacPherson)

Apples of the Hesperides
tricking of Atlas. Apples not eaten

Giant Atlas, the wrestler, who is son of earth
et gets strength from Earth.

(Sandy's allegorization)

moral: soul et body conflict

Egyptian King Osiris - human sacrifice (see PLT)
the main Egyptian who gets into Gk. mythology.

Hercules' madness - Zeus' punishment: H. sold into
slavery, does women's work, capturing queen
parade in his skins.

Rescue of Prometheus.

Rescue of maiden from sea-monster. He goes inside
the monster.

- Christian use of this

Rescue of Apollo from Admetus, whose wife Alcestis
dies in his place. The house in mourning.

Heracles rescues Alcestis

Heracles' Death.

winning a new wife by wrestling for her from
a river embodied as a single-horned bull.

Horns as religious symbol. Med. fertility &
cult. Bible: horns on the altar (Exodus)

Horn of salvation. Container for oil, the
sacred substance.

Horned Moses?

H. wife ravished by centaur, whose blood is poison.

Revenge of H. wife: the shirt?

H. could not be killed, but he went into the fire
where his mortal part is burned away
& immortal part goes to Heaven.

Herakles as great hero who achieves immortality

His weakness: rashness, but not evil

higher nature triumphs [see Antony & Cleopatra]

Euripides. Sophocles. Seneca.

Xenophon's moral tale about Heracles -

his choice between virtue & pleasure

Modelled on Paris' judgment.

Room 3 NAB 2 PM Journey without Arrival

Theodore Gaster lectures Mon 4:15 Nature of Myth

2115 Sid Smith Tues

3 NAB The Education of Modern Man Tues. 4:30

Jason.

Educated by Chiron. "chiron" = hand
medicine → chirurgerie (surgery)
XIP

Hera becomes his protector.

Golden Fleece - earlier than Jason's time

Zeus golden ram

The Argo

Hylas - Echo, Narcissus (see Frazer)

The clashing rocks - wandering islands

25.1.77 (Frye)

Job's construction:

superficially, Job restored to condition before, his daughters

BUT Job's family profoundly altered, opened out

wisdom books, Job acquires wisdom through totally alienating self.

Satan "adversary." God as adversary, who had drawn up an indictment without telling Job what he is accused of.

God → Satan

Whirlwind turns everything inside out

Wisdom & sanctity: development away from

ego. End of wisdom: I don't know,

to know nothing. Knowledge is not possessed,

it takes one over. End of power → I have

done nothing. I AM NOTHING

Christ: no place to lay his head

Song of Songs: I have no garden

Pastoral stage - a wandering, nomadic; the tribe alone with

Agricultural stage - a rooting,

settling in, corruption

its God,
the shepherd

Paradise life

Eckhart

Transformation in Job's mind:

settled → free moving, return to
state of creative exile, the emancipation of
man

Assumptions about levels of response →

(Pastoral
oasis

(Agricultural
Urban

Words concerning the individual:

1. body or flesh = solid metaphors

(basar
soma)

2. animated by a life (soul) in liquid metaphors -
the blood is the life, oil (nephesh
psyche)

3. Spirit: metaphors of air & fire

(ruach
pneuma)

God as the maker of visible & invisible.

The invisible → air, light

the medium for recreating the visible.

Paul: the
natural
body

spiritual
body

Two equally real worlds —
the one out there *et*
the one recreated in the medium of the
invisible —

In between: the mind (leb. nous) — a
condition of self-annihilation

Creation by the word — of light
God as speaker, he becomes conscious, he
condemns himself to death

Philippians 2,7: Christ made himself empty —
kenosis — self-annihilation —

passing through
a total self-negation

The conception I ceases to mean anything —
no subject-predicate duality

Thou art that —

Creation of the world of nature —
was a spiritual creation — 'no hierarchy —
until the Fall —
then it becomes hierarchial, the world falls
to a place beneath —

Air as the model for the invisible

If it could be seen, it would be a dense fog.

We are surrounded by the dense fog of matter
emptiness ← hebel = fog, translated as "vanity"

Ecclesiastes: all things are full of emptiness
all things are dense fog

The ego - a tight pellet - beholds a world of
dense, tight pellets

The over-arching skull → over-arching sky

// ECCLESIASTES //

Ecc. 12, 1 "Creator" close to word "grave"

Creative Pessimism.

a tough mind, but trans. is misleading

Ecc. is not a tired, old man. Trans. homogenizes
the book →. Many attempts to defuse the strength
of it.

Ecc 2, 3 - he tried to seek pleasures -
he is out to break one chain after
another of illusions in readers mind.

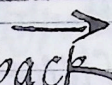
Parody of proverbs - sayings of the wise
are nonsense, not to be trusted

Nothing outside is to be trusted.

Our schooling : anxiety
alienation
absurdity) how do we go on living

Our experience of Time

①

dragged along,  to the future
a continuous annihilation

② a recurrence - emotional ambivalence
change within a predictable pattern.

Vanity of vanities : most of vanity

Ecc. begins in the cycle

no new thing under the sun

nevertheless a linear pattern beneath it
there is an end for the individual

27. i. 77 (MacPherson)

Argonauts

King Aietes, king of the land of the Fleece

Medea, priestess of Hecate

A. sets Jason a task: plow & sow dragon's teeth
with fiery bulls, Medea's help.

Stealing of the fleece

See Grant Pl. 60: Jason vomited up by dragon

Argonauts escape, but stained with blood guilt?

Circe's purifications

Sirens. Each crew member has a special
talent which is vital to the safety
of the ship.

Medea's Hecate sacrifice → Macbeth

Medea's revenge

Theseus

parentage earthly/divine Poseidon → Athens

Aegeus: the rock test for his son, Theseus

T. journey to his father + perils, recognition

Minos of Crete, a powerful kingdom.

His son killed -

Minotaur. The Labyrinth. Daedalus' escape

Theseus' free-will quest to Labyrinth
Ball of thread: clew (made by Daedalus ??)

Abandonment of Ariadne

"Aegean" sea named after Aegeas, Th. father

The sail-signal.

Theseus unifies Attica, establishes Commonwealth,

| marries Hypollita → son Hypollitus

Phaetra

Aphrodite
revenge

Esculapeos emblem

(not the caduceus)

§ one snake

(medicine)

§

communications

Grove of Nemi

King of the wood, the Golden Bough

Aphrodite: callig callipygous
beautiful but

1. Feb.

Ecclesiastes.

Unit of wisdom: proverb - an axiom of behavior

Proverbs punctuated

"Vanity" = emptiness, fog, vapour

- All is part of a fog - neither there nor not there. - the world which conceals the real.

Life continually haunted by past & future.

(see Job). Anxiety, the chain of time.

Ecc. wisdom: life = discontinuous moments of real presence

"A time for all things" -

Memory is accuser, fosters the illusion of a body of achievement, which someone else will pervert.

ch 9, 10: the grave, where there is no wisdom
worth of doing not in the winning of the race.

Continuous ego = delusion.

Vanity of vanities → the strength of mind
dis-illusionment, = freedom

See Sermon on the Mount - consider the lilies

Rhythm of pauses

Unity of the Bible: the seamless web of coherent imagery

Choice of text for sermon: every sentence is a microcosm of the whole, through which one moves into the domain of the Word

Rhythm of prose in Bible like verse - little continuous prose (an imitation of logic, a rhetoric that provides the illusion of logic into which the notion of causality is inherent).
Cont. prose - a democratic form - all is laid before the reader.

[Other prose: all sentences followed by lengthy pause, for meditation. Discontinuous aphorisms writing brought causal, continuous prose to the forefront.]

Prose of authority, not to be argued.
prose of the Bible.

The voice of God is the roar of a lion —
no subordinate clauses!

Laws - the 10 Commandments: Don't do it!

Authority → impersonality, the voice of
wisdom, the voice of God.

Non-continuous story-telling technique

Gospel rhythm - very short units.

Jesus in this place, then in that place

No biography but discontinuous sequence
of epiphanies.

This style → oral tradition

oral lit → continuous verse (Greek)

→ discontinuous prose (Hebrew)

oral formulaic units.

Biblical verse is earlier than the prose.

Prose of Bible put together late & quotes
earlier material, e.g., book of Jasher

Verse frag. with prose commentary

Numbers 21 (the brazen pole)

21:10 encampments, :14 ref. to source

:17 - work song

(metaphor) ↗

Joshua 10: 12ff quote from Jasher +
rationalizing commentary

Judges 4 - prose version of war song in Ch. 5

the tissue of connections belongs to prose
in poetry the reader makes the connections

Ch 5: 24 - the powerful act alone

Ch 4: 18 - continuous et circumstantial
preoccupation with detail, causal links

1611 translation reverts to the oral character

The late poetry

Hebrew verse rhythm: a statement et an
answering repetition

Job 6. repetition of sound, rhythm but no filling
in of sense.

Psalms 24. repetition et question/answer

Voice 1: God

Voice 2: the human response, learned

Amos. a prophet who is not an official prophet

Social role et function of prophecy.

8. Feb (MacPherson)

Frye 4 PM Cartwright Hall, St. Hilda's
Wednesday

Theseus

Royal house of Thebes

flight of Io to Egypt

Phoenix (\rightarrow Phoenicia) = scarlet
/red ochre dye/

Cadmus, arrives at Delphi, founds Boetia

Dragon kills his men - he kills dragon, sacred
to Ares, he sows teeth

the five remaining: Spartoi = the sown ones

Beotia - rustic simplicity in classical times

but Mycenaean times a glorious history, esp.
around Thebes.

No Egyptian influence?

Phoenician travelers & colonizers

Cadmus brought $\alpha\beta$

he marries Harmonia, daughter of Ares

Symele & the revelation

Dionysus, the double door, twice-born

Dionysos (Zeus-Semele)

ecstasis et fertility → later, wine, the vine

ivy et pine-cone

rod with pine-cone tip, carried by worshippers

Controversial origins. Dionysos - plebeian favorite

works et Days: first connection with wine

Arrival from East to Thebes: return to birth-place

Non-Greek origins: Thrace, Phrygia ?

manynames et titles

ecstasis, women worshippers → Thrace (Orpheus)

Maenads tore apart Orpheus → Sparagmos

[Guthrie: The Greeks et their Gods]

"Bacchus" from Asia Minor

Women figures - once goddesses → women

The making of women into Goddesses is
a restoration of an ancient status

AB Divine → Human (opposite of
Euhemerism!)

Fertility. Attendants: Maenads

Sylenus - a fat, jolly
old man, drunk - natural,
instinctive wisdom

Sylenus
Satyrs

comic sexual
cavorting

Dionysos' effect on Thebes

they resist. Pentheus torn apart when he spies on Maenads.

Destructive impact of the divine

10. Feb (Frye)

Style: Every sentence a world in itself.

Bible is primarily an edited text: not necessary to have a single author of each book.

Writing at first - commerce; a long time before it was applied to oral material.

Oral tradition - the Bible.

Consigning to writing - first works are the Laws, the cornerstone

Septuagint order → King James

Hebrew order 1. Law (Torah) - first to be canonized

2. Prophets

a. former - historical books (4)
Joshua, Judges, Sam.

b. later -
Isaiah, Jeremiah, (4)
Hosea → Malachi

3. Writings Psalter
"Wisdom" Wisdom

not admitted until
early Christian

Later histories

5 Rolls Ruth Esther
Canticles
Ecc. Daniel

Bible as essentially
a three-part
work
24 books

Law traditionally by Moses, but material goes back to time before writing

Deuteronomy - probably the earliest of the kernel.

2 Kings 22 - Josiah, late king. In repairing temple a MS discovered. 10: our fathers have not lived according to this.

Probably Deuteronomy.

Not known until almost the time of the destruction of Jerusalem. 7 cent. BC - Bible (Torah) put together. Sources:

D: Deuto.

J: the name IHWH

E: Elohim

P: the priestly narrative (heavily rationalized)

narratives

Beginning of Gen. - 2:4

J: from Gen 2:4 on; the general drought et release of imprisoned waters

Earliest books - 8th cent BC prophets -

they influence writing of Biblical material

Gospels were written within the body of a pre-existing Church.

Not authorship but editorship.

Luke is edited from sayings of Christ: logia (the Q "quelle" source) et Matthew et his own material

~~E~~^{it} worship must be regarded as inspired if the Bible is so regarded.

Shaping these books is a decisive, intelligent process — design. Revelations "this book" — if any man take away or add → this is it, we're finished.

John - example of compiler's thinking of wholeness
Designed to be the 1st book - echo of Genesis
(then Luke would be last, followed by Acts,
which is a commentary on it)

Fluid (but not chaotic) conception of the canon.

"New Testament Apocrapha" - gospels of high authority
during Middle Ages: childhood of Virgin,
infancy of Jesus

- inventiveness of second-rate minds
Divine child as horrible little bastard

"Apocraphal Acts" - descent of the soul into
the world.

Gospel of Nicodemus

- Bits of glossing in the canon

- doctrine of the trinity inserted 1st Epistle of John
ch 5, verse 7

Enoch: fall of the rebel angels

Influence of this book hard to trace. It dropped out
in 5th cent because of a hostile remark of St. Augustine

Psalm 19: 3 - a gloss, then "where" added to redeem it.
Correctness not always the primary standard!

22. Feb. (Frye)

Qualities of diction. Unified & decentralized structure.

Style reflects conception of origin & source:

leonine rhetoric, not a conversational monkey

Prophet speaks in God's voice.

Law, Prophets, Wise Men.

Revelation (OT) $\begin{cases} \text{law} \\ \text{prophecy} \end{cases}$

Buddhism & Hinduism are wisdom religions.

⌘ Biblical characteristic: prophecy

⌘ Prophets were originally ~~estates~~, ecstasies —
trance state: the oracle

1. Samuel 10: 5 - the prophets turned into "another man"
under influence of music

Spirit of the Lord comes upon them

Oracle in verse - primitive form

A well established position: the functionary prophet →
the genuine prophet [etym: dizzy - dens]

the sane prophet in the insane society

1. Kings 22 : union of Ahab with S. Israeli king

Jehoshaphat
Consultation with prophets :

the 400 unanimous voices

Micaiah^{et}, the lone voice of God -
against the lying spirit in the mouths
of his prophets.

Micaiah thrown in prison

Opposition between the genuine ^{et} the flattering prophet

Western religion | Genuine prophet in confrontation with
the whole of society represented by the king |

Also Jeremiah against ~~Nebuchadnezzar~~ his social order.

Jeremiah 37: 11

Christ speaks of prophets as martyrs

Hebrews 11: 36-

Life of Christ : his rejection of knowledge-wisdom
^{et} going on to fulfillment of Christ as
Prophet, who is scourged.

+ Center of Platonic dialogues is passion of Socrates
Socratic - prophetic element tuned out of
Neoplatonic tradition

Amos et Hosea in North Israel: Revolution

Kings councillors opposed to Amos Amos 7: 12

Amos defines prophecy: the prophet doesn't hedge
collision is inevitable

Tradition of the underdog's view

Daniel: the handwriting on
the wall

Elijah 1 Kings 18: 38

a very primitive figure

triumph of Jehovah is a bloody massacre

E. brings down the rain - the half-mad

..... primitive dervish

total opposition to social order - decadent culture
at the end of its cycle.

Paul: in the spirit . Revelations

Law → wisdom of prophecy → a cycle
← forming the new law

Legend
*
Apocalypse
present

24. j. 77 MacPherson

Cadmus

Ino offends Juno: J. descends to Hell, gets Fury
who drives Ino's husband mad; kills children,
pursues Ino

he mistakes children for animals

Central
met.
process

Acteon metamorphosis into animal

Dionysos ritual: human figures torn apart

Titans devour child. Zeus kills them with
a thunderbolt & makes man out of the ashes.

Dragon killing

Dionysos - Apollo: two opposed interests - a modern
division beginning with Nietzsche

(classical) Related by Orpheus

Dionysos worship introduced
into Apollo shrine in
6 cent. BC Delphi

Wild ritual

socialized into the Drama FM Conford

Dionysos
A

Walter Otto: Dionysos

ER Dodds: Gks & Irrational

P. Slater: The Glory of Hera

Cadmus & Harmonia transformed into snakes
at life's end - curse of the serpent (ovid) - arationalization
- But serpent's association with powers of
the earth & of the honored dead
Transformation is reward. Snake \Rightarrow immortality

Oedipus

ϕ Sophocles' plays

Polidorus' grandson Laius - Jocasta: the dangerous son

Oedipus exposure: indirect murder

Sphinx: sphingo: to draw tight, throttle
OR

phika / phix: the local bogey (Hesiod)

sphinx - what Greeks called the lion-headed Egyptian
figures.

Thebes.

Riddle.

Oedipus conquers monster, enters city as stranger,
wins queen & kingdom - folklore motif

ϕ Answering of a riddle.

Oracles as riddles. Sphinx - workings of fate

29. j (Frye)

Law: the first thing written down for public perusal, much before literature.

Law as focus for community life. Most sacrosanct of OT.

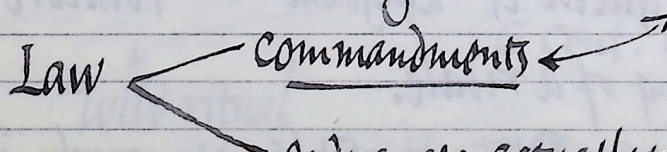
Ten Commandments: Moral principles - not a primitive law code. Earlier form concerned with ritual.

Exodus 34: the first version of 10 Commandments 34: 14 ff concerned with ritual. - more likely the primitive form. Negative ritual: forbidden to do things done by neighbors.

Discontinuous voice of authority, clearest & most unconditioned.

"No killing" is so unconditioned

"Auguries of Innocence" (Blake) against cruelty to animals - true in the state of innocence, a world where gentleness is absolutely unquestioned

Law 
 Commandments
 Ordinance: actually to be observed in the actual world

"Commandment" - an augury of innocence - a description of a state of being where that could be true.

"Love one another" cannot be obeyed as law

Sermon on the Mount: commentary on 10 Command.

Law is transformed from negative prohibition to enthusiasm for life.

Ordinance \Rightarrow Commandment as vision

Gospel: proscription \rightarrow vision of a world beyond law

The two levels of law: innocence // experience

Living in the light of the vision by loving one another.

Parable: the normal means of educating a free man

PL: Adam educated by the story of angel's fall.

Education by fact et predictability is under the law.

Science et pure predictability: fallen knowledge

Commandment: what one is to be

Ordinance: what one is to do.

[Our principle of interpretation: the structure of the Bible]

Mark 4: 2 ff. et following allegorical translation at 4: 14

parable,
a verbal structure,
a focus for meditation,
unlimited: a reverberation
of meanings

a limited translation, a problem
with a solution, an explanation

teaching
by
vision

Thus:

Wisdom

the tried & tested way. The past.
counsel of prudence, the safe way
Proverbs 27. Caution. Proscription

Logion.

Concentration on present moment

Aphorism or parable. Vision of wholeness.

Sermon on the Mount: fulfillment of the law,
a higher conception of the law.

Prophecy

the oracular answer: lot, divination
fortelling the future

Isaiah 7: 10 the prophet rejects
fortelling, gives vision.

Emblematic vision

beyond the chain of causality & time.

The resonance of the text → apocalyptic vision

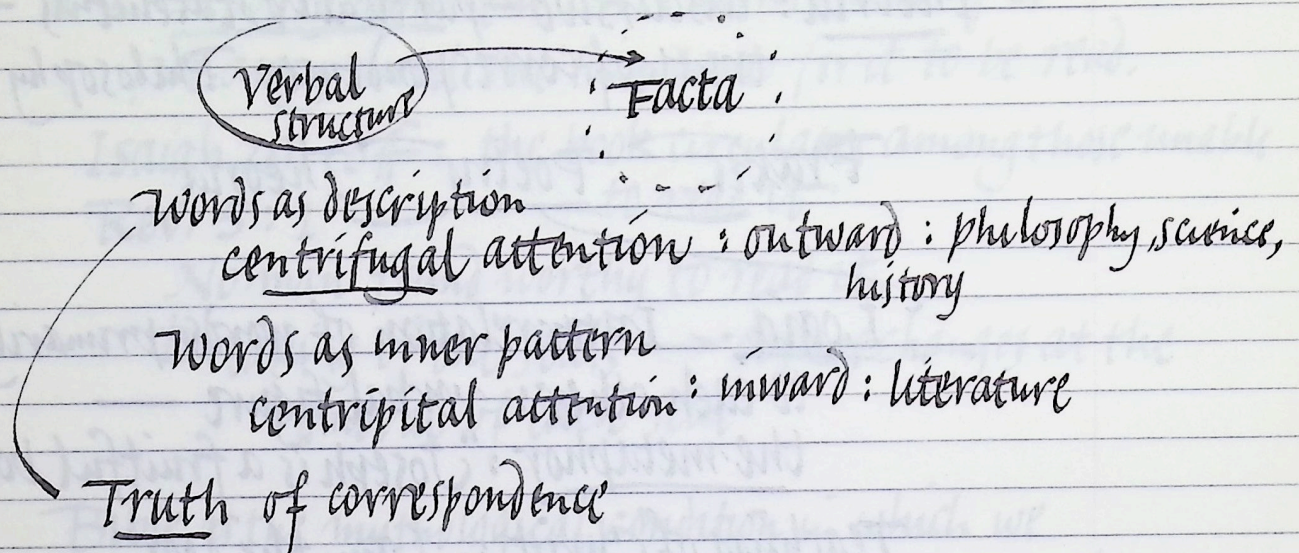
(Isaiah 63: a prophecy

1 Kings 19: 11-12

The reverberations continue past the immediate
context into a vision of human life,
beyond any historical event

8. March (Frye)

Approach: critical assumption



To which category does the Bible belong?

That antithesis does not exist for the Bible.

Literalist attitude interested in evidence about which the Bible is not interested. Bible as history → it is a work of literature, which is preposterous.

Aristotle:

praxis: action. History is primary imitation of human action

poetic structures tell stories. No particular statements, nothing relevant. Universal statements — what invariably happens.

Story not history. MYTHOS: the story which forms the narrative.

Question of truth: implications within the structure itself

Theoria: discursive - particular statements - truth of correspondence. Philosophy

Praxis — Poetry — Theoria

Logia. Interrelation of words primarily to each other: verbal figure —
the metaphor: "Joseph is a fruitful bow"

Teaching of Christ: I am the door.

✠ Metaphor is the way the Bible writers thought?

Implicit metaphorical relationship when words are related primarily to each other.

Bible demands reading in mythic/metaphoric manner.

Bible is not literature, but one must go in that direction.

Resonance of a verbal structure never stops, but where one stops with it, one has allegory
Type-Antitype allegory of Christianity.

"Literal" meaning: $A=B$

Meaning doesn't stop!

Bible as focus for meditation et so thus it acts on us. Endless repetition

The Apocryphon: the secret book, sealed up et put away until the time comes for it to be read.

Isaiah 29: 10ff: the book circulates among those unable to read it

Rev. 5: 1

No man found worthy to read it.

Breaking of the seals → cosmos changes at the removal of each seal

Bible is the mythological condition in which we have grown up et so structures the way in which we see.

Conception of the king as the whole of society

Revolutionary conception: the invisible king - the one man inside society → the one man inside all men → democracy

Moment of deliverance of Israel - end of Wisdom Book

